

- 2. The method of claim 25, wherein at least one mesenchymal stem cell has been induced to differentiate into a cardiomyogenic cell prior to administration.
 - 3. The method of claim 1, wherein said method improves cardiac function by causing an angiogenic response.
 - 4. The method of claim 2, wherein said mesenchymal stem cells have been cultured for at least 7 days.
 - 5. The method of claim 2, wherein said mesenchymal stem cells have been cocultured with cardiomyocytes.
 - 7. The method of claim 2, wherein said differentiation is induced by contacting said mesenchymal stem cells with 5-azacytidine or an analog thereof, prior to administration.
 - 12. The method of claim 1, wherein said method improves cardiac function as measured by the cardiac ejection fraction.
 - 25. A method for treating damaged or scarred myocardial tissue, said method comprising administering to said damaged or scarred tissue a cellular suspension comprising mesenchymal stem cells that have been cultured *ex vivo*.
 - 26. The method of claim 25, wherein said mesenchymal stem cells are autologous.
 - 27. The method of claim 25, wherein said mesenchymal stem cells are isolated